GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:736
ANSWERED ON:29.02.2000
NON-AVAILABILITY OF LIFE SAVING DRUGS
SURESH KODIKUNNIL

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any survey on the availability of anti-venom medicines and life saving medicines in rural areas of the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some Government hospitals in the rural areas are without the life saving drugs and antidotes for snake bites;

(d) if so, the steps taken by the Government to ensure the availability of the said medicines in these hospitals;

(e) whether the CGHS dispensaries in Kerala are equipped with all prime requisites and adequate staff strength; and

(f) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) & (b) The facility survey being conducted by the Govt. in all the States/Union Territories strives to assess availability of supply of necessary medicines, trained staff, equipment etc. and their utilisation at Primary Health Centres (PHCs), Community Health Centres (CHCs) First Referral Units (FRUs) and District Hospitals and Post Partum Centres (PPCs) etc. Under Facility Survey one distri from each of large states and one Block of district from each small State/UT is to be covered every month.

(c) & (d) There is, generally no shortage of Life Saving Drugs and Anti-Snake venom Serums (ASVS)It is produced in the country in sufficient quantity. These medicines are supplied to the health centres by respective State Govts. who are regularly advised to see that adequate and regular supply of medicines is made to the health centres.

(e) & (f) There are some shortages of staff and equipment in some of the CGHS dispensaries in Kerala, largely due to some of the posts being time barred and some others falling under ban orders on recruitment.